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Toronto metro

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THIS IS TORONTO

'We are here to recommit our city as a place of **inclusion** and **acceptance** where people are **welcomed** and **valued**, and where their **fundamental rights** and **humanity** are **respected** and **enshrined**'

Mayor John Tory and councillors united Tuesday to reaffirm our status as a Sanctuary City

metroVIEWS

Plus

EUROPEAN UNION CALLS U.S. A 'THREAT'

ACADEMICS BOYCOTT U.S. CONFERENCE

#DELETEUBER

Uber's Trump ties spark a movement

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Faced with a "feedback" box to complete when deleting her Uber account, Laura Ball didn't hesitate to share her thoughts.

"Any type of support or legitimizing of Trump and his tactics, essentially for me is, I think I used the word, abhorrent," she told Metro.

The 25-year-old Torontonian is lending her voice to a growing chorus dumping the ride-hailing app and rallying around the "deleteUber" hashtag.

Ball had been a loyal user for more than two years — catching rides a few times a week as a cheaper and more accessible alternative to cabs.

But, on Saturday, she heard about Uber breaking the New York City taxi driver strike on service to JFK airport. Cabbies were refusing rides in solidarity with those detained under President Donald Trump's travel ban on people from seven Muslim-majority countries.

Then, she did a little more research and found Uber CEO Travis Kalanick sits on Trump's economic advisory group, along with CEOs of Tesla, Disney and other corporations.

Continued on page 6

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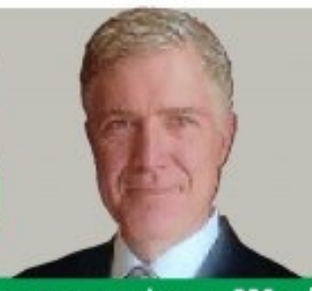

Donald Trump chooses Neil Gorsuch as his Supreme Court nominee. **World**

Jean Paul Gladu, president and CEO of Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, believes recognizing successful Indigenous people will help inspire others in their communities. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

Indigenous inspiration

RECOGNITION

Two to be added to Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A Toronto institution is making sure Indigenous success stories get the kind of recognition they deserve.

Tucked away in a small hallway near the Distillery District, the Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame has, for the past 12 years, been quietly honouring business champions from communities across the country.

Two more names were added Tuesday night: Herb Belcourt, a respected Métis entrepreneur whose philanthropic actions have supported thousands of Indigenous students in Alberta; and Isabell Ringenoldus, a tech entrepreneur from Fort McMurray First Nation.

The initiative shines a light on people who have demonstrated foresight, determination and resilience, said Jean Paul Gladu, president and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

"As Indigenous people, we want to see our faces in the success and leadership of our country," he said, noting the vetting process for inductees includes how they've helped others succeed.

"They are the laureates who serve as examples to inspire others in our communities to do better."

It's also a way to dispel stereotypes and show that Indigenous people are contributing a lot to the country's economy. The number comes to about $30 billion a year, Gladu said, nearly half of which comes from Indigenous business owners.

"We still face institutional racism against our people," said Gladu, noting people living on reserves still can't legally access startup money made available by the government.

"It's ridiculous. We are strong and meaningful players, and we need to be seen as competitors in the Canadian business market."

Toronto DIGEST

COURT

Pastor acquitted of sex offence charges

A Nova Scotia judge has acquitted a prominent Toronto pastor of sex offence charges dating back four decades.

Rev. Brent Hawkes was found not guilty of indecent assault and gross indecency in a Kentville, N.S. court on Tuesday by Judge Alan Tufts, who said he found inconsistencies in the testimony of the witnesses.

Hawkes was a teacher in Annapolis Valley, N.S., in the 1970s, and the charges related to allegations made by men who were students at the time.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THEATRE

Friend of murder victim speaks out against play

A close friend of a woman murdered by convicted sex killer Russell Williams says an upcoming stage production based on the intense police interrogation of the former military commander will sensationalize his crimes.

Kirsten Walkom says the grief experienced by Williams' victims and their loved ones is not meant for entertainment.

The One Little Goat Theatre Company plans to premiere Smyth/Williams in March, with an all-female cast that will alternate the roles of Ontario Provincial Police Det. Sgt. Jim Smyth and Williams through the performance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PRIVATIZATION

Tory trashes his own waste collection plan

Facing the potential defeat of his plan to expand private trash collection, Mayor John Tory has retreated from his 2014 campaign promise and instead now says more facts are needed on an issue that has deeply divided council. Critics of the plan to outsource trash collection east of Yonge Street said the mayor wasn't able to rally the support he needed.

On Tuesday, just as the debate was getting underway, Tory tabled a surprise motion to refer back to city staff their report calling for the Scarborough garbage collection contract to be put out to tender. It passed 40-4. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CORPORATE DONATIONS

Hoskins wants ban on hospitals from being renamed for donors

Queen's Park wants to ban hospitals from being renamed at the behest of rich donors. Concerned about wealthy people and big corporations getting entire hospitals rechristened in exchange for philanthropic contributions, Health Minister Eric Hoskins is proposing that any such changes be cleared by him.

Hoskins says "the new name must not include the corporate or business name of a corporate donor, or the family name of an individual or family donor, (or) the family name of an individual."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City manager attacks Wynne for tolls move

POLITICS

Wallace rejects premier's claim to have made up for lost revenue

By flip-flopping on tolls Premier Kathleen Wynne has robbed Toronto of badly needed revenue and undercut the city's independence and decision-making ability, says the city manager.

Peter Wallace's withering assessment of Wynne's surprise decision to block tolls is in a three-page letter to Mayor John Tory and the 44 councillors sent Tuesday and obtained by Torstar News Service.

While bemoaning Toronto's lost fiscal opportunity and flatly rejecting Wynne's argument she has replaced the lost revenue, he urges council to keep pushing for road pricing.

Tolling the Don Valley Parkway and Gardiner Expressway, approved by council in December after Wynne said she would not block tolls, would have helped bridge the big gulf between the city's means and its ambitions, Wallace wrote.

Wynne announced last week, amid strong opposition to tolls from 905-belt MPPs, she will not pass toll-enabling regulation. The premier suggested she would instead double gas tax revenues for municipalities including Toronto — but the city was told it would get both.

Wallace says gas tax revenues — he predicts an extra $158 million per year — are "helpful" but are also unpredictable.

"This incremental investment is welcome, but is not a direct substitute," wrote Wallace.

Wynne characterized her change of heart as an unwillingness to let people pay tolls before public transit alternatives are built.

Wynne on Monday seemed to placate Tory somewhat by appearing to open the door to help finance repairs to community housing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City Manager Peter Wallace takes questions during City of Toronto council meeting at Toronto City Hall in June 2016.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The entrance of 401 Richmond, one of numerous cultural institutions being priced out of affordability as property taxes soar. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Council passes motion to help cultural spaces

In the wake of a huge tax hike on downtown arts haven 401 Richmond, Toronto has appealed to the province with a plan to save cultural spaces like it from vanishing in the city core.

City council unanimously passed a motion late Tuesday afternoon that asks the province to change Ontario's tax code regarding heritage properties and those used to house cultural agencies and activities.

The motion is a direct run-off from the revelation in December that 401 Richmond St. W., a long-standing haven for artists, small-scale craftspeople and non-profit cultural organizations, was facing a property assessment that would more than double its annual tax load, endangering its ability to continue to provide below-market rents to those tenants.

"City council has delivered a clear statement to the province: New provincial tax policy is necessary if we are going to protect and support important buildings like 401 Richmond," said Coun. Joe Cressy, who tabled the motion. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CLOSING DOWN

Another local music institution, the Silver Dollar Room, is expected to close in the next few months.

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Open the doors wide

U.S. TRAVEL BAN

City, advocates urge nation to take in more refugees now

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Canada should revisit its plan for welcoming refugees this year and be ready to accept more in the wake of Donald Trump's travel ban.

That's the harmonious message coming from the resettlement agency working with refugees in the GTA and from Toronto City Council.

"I think as a country we have to take another look at the annual plan for refugees, given what's happening south of the border," said Mario Calla, executive director of COSTI Immigration Services.

Part of Canada's strength has been its government-assisted and private-sponsored refugee programs, he added

While the federal plan was to cut intake by 27 per cent this year, Calla said the U.S. travel ban will mean more people seeking refuge in Canada.

Many Torontonians, like Jeremy Greenberg, shown at Monday's protest at the U.S. consulate, are hopping mad about Trump's travel ban and want our government to step up. TORSTAR

"We have the capacity from last year's momentum," he said.

City council voted Tuesday pressure the federal government to accelerate resettlement of refugees. Politicians, led by Mayor John Tory, also reaffirmed Toronto's status as a Sanctuary City and called on Ottawa to maintain policies based on values of inclusion and acceptance.

"We are here today to denounce all acts of Islamophobia, of discrimination, of fear and hatred," Tory said. "We understand that, as Canadians, we are almost all immigrants — and that no one should be excluded, mistreated or disrespected on the basis of their ethnicity or nationality.

"Although there is still work to be done, Toronto has a long history of speaking out against discrimination in all forms. And we have a moral obligation to speak out now."

Tweet turns off Tory

John Tory stopped short Tuesday of denouncing his former campaign strategist Nick Kouvalis who on the weekend called a political science professor a "cuck" on Twitter — a derogatory term used by the bigoted right-wing against their opponents — and accused him of "treason."

Kouvalis has since apologized. He's currently campaign manager for federal Conservative leadership candidate Kellie Leitch. Leitch has proposed vetting immigrants, refugees and visitors for "anti-Canadian values."

Tory told reporters he would not support any campaign that is "inconsistent" with his position on inclusion, but refused to wade into proposed policies. Tory noted Kouvalis was right to apologize for his earlier tweets and said he will be in charge of any future campaign messaging. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayor's full statement on our Sanctuary City, metroVIEWS, p. 11

ACTIVISM

Get out and speak up this weekend

A new coalition advocating for immigrant and minority rights is vowing to push Canadian officials to take a strong stance against Islamophobia and racism.

Hundreds of protesters are expected at the U.S. Consulate in Toronto this weekend to denounce the Quebec mosque attack and Donald Trump's travel ban on people from mostly Muslim countries. Organizers are hoping the protests can sustain a national movement advocating for policies to make Canada safer and more welcoming for everyone.

PROTEST

Where it's happening
The protest starts at 12:30 p.m. Saturday outside the U.S. Consulate

> **We have to act on our values.**
> Walied Khogali

"We can't just speak to our values. We have to act on our values," said Walied Khogali, a Toronto community activist and one of the protest organizers. "Standing up for Canada means telling our friends south of the border that their policies are xenophobic, Islamophobic and they're making Canadians less safe."

The demands from dozens of community groups forming the coalition include a public condemnation of Trump's Muslim ban, revoking the Safe Third Country Agreement and scrapping Canadian legislation perceived as "racist," such as Bill C-51.

"Anti-immigrant sentiments in Canada are there and secret white supremacist groups do exist," Khogali said.

Canadian politicians have only offered "platitudes" of welcoming refugees without changing existing policies that make it impossible to do so, said Syed Hussan of No One Is Illegal-Toronto said. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

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Car2go expands Toronto fleet

TRANSPORTATION

Company going bigger than familiar Smart Cars

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

A bigger Car2go will be available in Toronto as of next month.
COURTESY CAR2GO

Vehicle sharing service Car2go is rolling out a bigger fleet, with more room for Toronto users to stuff in Ikea furniture, kids and dogs.

The company will be adding two Mercedes-Benz models: The CLA — a four-door coupe — and the GLA — a four-door urban SUV. Users can expect to see about 100 of the bigger cars on the streets by the end of next month, said company spokeswoman Blaire Kniffin.

The goal, she said, is to attract new members, like young families, who are looking for more than the company's familiar two-seater Smart Cars.

"They really have been needing that back space, they really have been needing that extra cargo," she said about customers. "It's been a barrier for them."

The Smart Cars will still be available for those that enjoy driving, and parking, a smaller vehicle, she added.

The bigger cars will come at a slightly bigger price tag, about $19 per hour and $79 per day compared to $14 per hour and $59 per day for the Smart Cars.

LETTERS OF NOTE

Streetcar as metaphor

Riders hold each other up on crowded transit, literally

Every day at 4:53 p.m., I leave my office and cram myself into one of Toronto's notoriously packed streetcars.

It's like speed dating face to face at 30km/hr.

I looked at the people — one of every colour, ethnicity, sexuality and ability — all smooshed body-to-body next to me.

If this were anywhere else in the world, you might think we are all on our way to the Olympic village. But this is Toronto, every single day. Canada, every single day.

That streetcar is a sardine can on rails, but it's also a metaphor. We all share the same journey, and we are all in this together. Because when that streetcar slams on its brakes, all of our tightly packed bodies support one another from falling down.

There is no place for division here. STEPHEN DENEAULT

Trump link hurts Uber

Continued from page 1

"I feel like a lot of us, especially in Canada, are grasping at straws at ways to make little protests along the way as we can," she said of her decision to let go of the app.

Uber, meanwhile, is distancing itself from Trump. The company's CEO opposes the travel ban and will make that clear to Trump during a meeting this week, spokeswoman Susie Heath wrote in an email.

Uber will give financial compensation to drivers affected by the ban and will set up a $3 million legal defence fund for them, she added.

James Aita was an early adopter of Uber in 2013, but is also pulling the plug, calling the company's decision not to support the cabbie strike "terrible business ethics."

Aita knows his decision could come with unintended consequences for Uber drivers but said he sees it more as a message to the company brass.

"I think our generation is starting to become a little bit more affected by the ethical practices of business," he said.

Laura Ball has stuck with Uber for two years through price surges and taxi protests, but she's deleted the app over what she sees as the company's support of Trump's policies.
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GOVERNMENT

Parliament debates Trump's Muslim ban

The Liberal government is holding the line on its immigration and refugee policy in the wake of the U.S. travel ban, but leaving the door open to future adjustments as they continue to study the far-reaching - and fast-changing - implications.

"We have a very robust and welcoming refugee system," Immigration Minister Ahmed Hussen said Tuesday.

"We don't develop policy on the fly. We have to make sure that we understand all the implications, to make sure that we stick to our numbers and make sure that we develop policy after careful consideration of all the implications."

The Liberal cabinet minister was responding to calls - including from the New Democrats - to do more to fill the gaps left by U.S. President Donald Trump's temporary immigration ban on people from seven Muslim-majority countries and his indefinite bar to Syrian refugees.

"Canada must step up to do its part," said NDP immigration critic Jenny Kwan. "There is much more that Canada can do and must do."

At Kwan's request, MPs held an emergency debate Tuesday evening on the U.S. travel ban and how Canada should respond.

In the debate, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair urged the government to lift an "artificial, arbitrary" cap on the number of Syrian refugees who can be brought to Canada through private sponsorships, which is currently set at 1,000 applications — a target that was reached over the weekend.

"A cap such as this one, especially when the United States has banned admission to Syrian refugees for an indeterminate time is completely unacceptable and goes against the international law that has been advocated since the Second World War," Mulcair said.

In a weekend tweet that was seen as a thinly veiled response to Trump's measures, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau promoted Canada as a country that welcomes refugees, no matter their religion, and considers the diversity of its people to be a strength.

During question period on Tuesday, Mulcair asked Trudeau whether he plans to denounce the U.S. travel ban when he meets Trump.

"Canadians expect their prime minister to stand up for their values, for our principles, and to advocate compassion and generosity," Trudeau replied. "I am here to defend Canadian values and I will do so loudly and clearly."

Trudeau and Trump are indeed expected to meet at some point in the coming days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair urged the Liberals to lift a cap on the number of privately sponsored Syrian refugees. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto man sets up fund to help victims of attack

When Toronto resident Mohamed Fakih heard the news of Sunday's attack at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec, he was both heartbroken and worried.

"You realize it's not really time to go into shock, it's time to react and do something about it." Fakih, the founder and CEO of Paramount Fine Foods, offered to pay for the funerals of the victims of a shooting rampage at a Quebec mosque that left six dead and 19 injured. He's also offered to help pay for repairs to the mosque.

Fakih didn't know anyone from the mosque in Quebec personally, so he reached out to the Islamic Relief Canada, a global charity with offices in Canada, to figure out how he and his family could support the grief-stricken community. As of Tuesday afternoon, Islamic Relief Canada had raised just over $100,000 for the Quebec community. The CEO, Zaid Al-Rawni, said that the centre has received a wave of donations from across the country since Sunday.

Al-Rawni said the centre has representatives working in Quebec, and wants those close to the tragedy to lead in directing funds raised to where they're needed most. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Azzedine Najd and Fadwa Achmaoui stand by a memorial near their mosque which was site of a deadly shooting on Tuesday in Quebec City. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Muslim community struggling with shock

QUEBEC CITY

Families of victims relying on charitable donations

Ahmed Ech-Chahedy was standing about 30 metres away when the gunfire started.

The man carried an "assault rifle," he said. He took his time. And his face was not covered — contrary to early reports, he said in an interview.

Ech-Chahedy, a taekwando instructor, was with his son and one of the boy's friends, when the shooter entered the mosque.

"If I think about it, it probably lasted five or six minutes," said Ech-Chahedy, who managed to flee the building and shelter in a nearby restaurant. "It was planned because even the way he fired at people—he was calm."

Police investigating the terror attack at a Quebec City mosque have received witness accounts that an individual matching the description of the shooter was seen outside the building several days prior to the shooting.

Mohamed Labidi, the vice president of the Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec, told Torstar that, during a Monday night meeting, one member of the Muslim community claimed to have been approached a few days earlier by an individual who was asking for money.

Labidi said they claimed that the person was in fact the alleged killer, 27-year-old Alexandre Bissonnette, who is charged with six counts of murder and five counts of attempted murder.

The consequences of the shooter's actions are known now to all: Six men are dead while two more remain in hospital in critical but stable condition.

But a Muslim community that is still struggling with shock and grief is also now being forced to cope with the administration of a murderous tragedy that has widowed and orphaned women and children and ripped apart families and friendships.

So far, the families of the dead are relying on charitable donations from organizations like Islamic Relief, which sent a team of people from Montreal and the Toronto area to assess the needs and coordinate delivery of the necessary support.

In a six-storey apartment building a short drive from the mosque where Ibrahima Barry, 39, and Mamadou Tanou Barry, 42, had gone together to pray, the halls of the fifth and sixth floors were strewn with boots and crowded with women bringing food and men making telephone calls and offering handshakes of condolence.

Among them was Mamoudou Afia Barry, the older brother of Mamadou Tanou, who had just arrived in town from his home in Columbus, Ohio, and was being briefed on what help and arrangements the Guinean community in Quebec City had already offered and what else was available.

"The decision we have to make is whether to take his body back (to Guinea) or have the funeral here, since his mom is here and his wife and kids are here," he said. "That's what we are trying to figure out right now."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Amnesty calls for action

Amnesty Canada has joined the chorus of activists asking the federal government to repeal its Safe Third Country Agreement with the U.S. in light of an executive order banning travel from seven Muslim countries. "The United States is failing to protect refugees," says a statement on Amnesty's website. The organization is asking supporters to reach out to their MPs and express their views.

METRO

PMO slams Fox News for wrong tweet about mosque shooting in Quebec City

One of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's senior officials is taking Fox News to task for describing the alleged gunman in the Quebec City shooting as Moroccan.

Kate Purchase, director of communications in the Prime Minister's Office, pointed out the "false and misleading language" in a letter to Fox News Channel co-president Bill Shine that was released to the media Tuesday.

"Canada is an open, welcoming country that stands by its citizens," Purchase wrote in the letter, which goes well beyond simply asking for a correction.

"We are a nation of millions of immigrants and refugees, of hundreds of cultures, languages and religions bound by one, unwavering, unshakable belief: we are stronger not in spite of our differences, but because of them.

"These tweets by Fox News dishonour the memory of the six victims and their families by spreading misinformation, playing identity politics, and perpetuating fear and division within our communities."

The tweet appeared to be a consequence of early police reports in the wake of the shooting that said two suspects had been taken into custody. Later reports said one of those people was not a suspect, but a witness.

Purchase noted the tweet appeared early Monday afternoon, but has yet to be deleted despite the fact police have confirmed that the sole suspect, Alexandre Bissonnette, is a 27-year-old man of French-Canadian origin.

By early Tuesday evening, the tweet had been retweeted more than 900 times, and liked about 1,600 times. It also had about 7,200 replies, many of them pointing out the inaccuracy and calling for a correction.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Europe calls U.S. a 'threat'

POLITICS

EU chief groups its ally with Russia and China

E.U. President Donald Tusk, right, said the Trump administration is part of an external "threat," together with China, Russia, radical Islam, war and terror. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/GETTY IMAGES

The leader of the European Union put longtime ally the United States in a "threat" category on Tuesday, insisting that President Donald Trump is contributing to the "highly unpredictable" outlook for the bloc.

In a letter to 27 EU leaders before Friday's summit in Malta, EU President Donald Tusk mentioned the Trump administration as part of an external "threat" together with China, Russia, radical Islam, war and terror.

Echoing statements from many European capitals, he said that those global challenges, "as well as worrying declarations by the new American administration, all make our future highly unpredictable."

He said that "particularly the change in Washington puts the European Union in a difficult situation; with the new administration seeming to put into question the last 70 years of American foreign policy."

This year marks the centennial of the U.S. entry in the First World War, and it marked the beginning of the American century as well as the enduring trans-Atlantic bond with Europe. Tensions have risen though since Trump was elected U.S. president.

"We should remind our American friends of their own motto: United we stand, divided we fall," Tusk said in the letter.

Britain wasn't part of the letter since it is poised to leave the EU and is only scheduled to attend part of the leaders' meeting in La Valletta. The decision to leave was the biggest setback for the EU in decades, and Trump didn't endear himself with many EU leaders by saying that Brexit "will be a tremendous asset and not a tremendous liability."

"In politics, the argument of dignity must not be overused," Tusk wrote. "Today we must stand up very clearly for our dignity, the dignity of a united Europe." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump announces Supreme Court pick

President Donald Trump nominated Neil Gorsuch, a fast-rising conservative judge with a writer's flair, to the Supreme Court Tuesday night, setting up a fierce fight with Democrats over a jurist who could shape America's legal landscape for decades to come.

At 49, Gorsuch is the youngest Supreme Court nominee in a quarter-century. He's known on the Denver-based 10th Circuit Court of Appeals for clear, colloquial writing, advocacy for court review of government regulations, defence of religious freedom and skepticism toward law enforcement.

"Judge Gorsuch has outstanding legal skills, a brilliant mind, tremendous discipline and has earned bipartisan support," Trump declared, announcing the nomination in his first televised prime-time address from the White House.

Neil Gorsuch during a televisted address with President Trump on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gorsuch thanked Trump for entrusting him with "a most solemn assignment." Outlining his legal philosophy, he said: "It is the rule of judges to apply, not alter, the work of the people's representatives. A judge who likes every outcome he reaches is very likely a bad judge." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ACADEMIA

University professors speak out against Muslim ban

More than 4,000 university professors, administrators and researchers have signed a petition to boycott international academic conferences in the U.S. to show solidarity with Muslim colleagues affected by U.S. President Donald Trump's travel ban. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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It's curtains for Othello

ALBERTA

Threats follow casting of woman in lead, theatre says

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

An actress slated to play Othello in a controversial Edmonton theatre production has apologized after the show was cancelled.

Walterdale Theatre announced Monday it was cancelling the production after actors were threatened over the casting of a white woman in the lead role.

The role, that of a powerful Moorish general of the Venetian army, is traditionally played by a man of colour.

Walterdale Theatre says it received threats after casting a woman as Othello. SUPPLIED

Linette Smith posted to Facebook Tuesday that she made a mistake by accepting the role.

"I am so sorry and I own it 100%. I did not think through in the accepting of Othello and the impact and pain it would cause," she wrote.

Edmonton Police Service spokesman Scott Pattison said an individual from the Walterdale Theatre who allegedly received online threats met with an EPS constable Tuesday but chose not to file a formal complaint.

150 ways of looking at Canada

POSTCARD #1

LONSDALE QUAY, VANCOUVER, B.C.

I TOOK THIS PHOTO AT LONSDALE QUAY, NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C., SEEING DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER ON CHRISTMAS DAY, 1987. I WAS THERE WITH MY HUSBAND ON OUR HONEYMOON, AND WE WENT BACK TO JAPAN THE NEXT DAY WITHOUT EXPECTING WE WOULD COME TO CANADA 24 YEARS LATER. **MAYUMI HIGUCHI, VANCOUVER**

SEND US YOUR POSTCARD Each day until July 1, Metro will feature one reader's postcard in our editions across the county, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. You can get involved by sending us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. You can email us at **scene@metronews.ca** or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag **#150postcards**.

SEX ASSAULT CASE

Man acquitted, woman's credibility questioned

A man who was tried for a second time after a judge made controversial comments at the original trial has again been found not guilty of sexual assault.

Alexander Wagar, 29, smiled after the verdict Tuesday and yelled "yeah" as he left the Calgary courtroom.

Wager was acquitted in 2014 by Judge Robin Camp, who ruled Wagar was a more credible witness than the 19-year-old woman making the allegation. Camp called the woman "the accused" throughout that trial and asked her why she couldn't keep her knees together.

The Alberta Court of Appeal overturned the acquittal and ordered a new trial. The judge hearing the retrial, Justice Gerry LeGrandeur, said after considering the testimony of both the woman and the accused, he was left with reasonable doubt that a sexual assault happened.

LeGrandeur said the case has drawn a lot of public interest and sympathy, but the Crown had not proven the charge.

He said the complainant continually said she didn't remember events and that "raises a serious credibility issue."

LeGrandeur said Wagar was candid and the judge did not consider his testimony to be "incredible or implausible."

Wagar's lawyer said there was evasiveness in the complainant's testimony. Pat Flynn called it a "consensual sex act between two young adults" and it was only afterward that the woman changed her mind.

Crown prosecutor Janice Walsh said the defence presented an outdated version of a "woman scorned." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, February 1, 2017

TORONTO TAKES A STAND

Mayor John Tory and more than 20 city councillors stood together Tuesday to reaffirm Toronto's status as a Sanctuary City. This is the mayor's full statement.

There are times in history when it is necessary to speak up – clearly and loudly – for what is right.

As a diverse city, my colleagues and I represent citizens of all backgrounds, of all faiths, who have arrived here from nations around the world.

We have a responsibility to keep them safe, to embrace them, to defend them and to protect their interests and their rights, as Canadians and as Torontonians.

Over the past week, we have watched as the United States government has moved forward with executive orders on immigration targeting people from Muslim-majority countries.

We have also reacted in horror as six Canadians were killed in a terrorist attack on the Centre Culturel Islamique in Quebec City on Sunday.

And so we are here today to denounce all acts of Islamophobia, of discrimination, of fear and hatred.

And we are here to recommit our city as a place of inclusion and acceptance where people are welcomed and valued, and where their fundamental rights and humanity are respected and enshrined.

As I said in a statement over the weekend, we understand that, as Canadians, we are almost all immigrants – and that no one should be excluded, mistreated or disrespected on the basis of their ethnicity or nationality.

Although there is still work to be done, Toronto has a long history of speaking out against discrimination in all forms.

We are here to recommit our city as a place of inclusion and acceptance.

SAFE HAVEN No one should be made to feel afraid because of who they are or where they're from, Mayor John Tory writes. DAVID RIDER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

And we have a moral obligation to speak out now.

This afternoon, I will put forward a motion together with Couns. Cressy and Mihevic reaffirming in these turbulent times our commitment to "Toronto for all – United as an Inclusive Sanctuary City."

I am proud that our residents have opened their arms to Syrian refugees, and our city has supported a newcomer strategy and its "Toronto for all" campaign – which aims to combat discrimination in all its forms, from Islamophobia to anti-black racism to transphobia.

Toronto has also affirmed itself as a Sanctuary City, with a formal policy allowing all residents of Toronto to access city services without fear arising from a lack of documentation, so that everyone can be kept healthy and safe.

Now is the moment for us to reaffirm that commitment and to send a clear message that Toronto rejects all division, intolerance and hate, and is here to support all of our residents.

I want to thank Coun. Cressy and Coun. Mihevic for their hard work on establishing Toronto as a Sanctuary City and for their leadership, collaboration and outreach to the community as our newcomer advocates, along with Coun. Jim Karygiannis.

No one should be made to feel afraid because of who they are or where they come from.

And to those who see immigration or new Canadians as something to fear I say this to you:

The people we welcome in Toronto as immigrants and refugees help build our city and our country.

They are children and parents, our neighbours and coworkers.

They have often faced real danger and persecution in the countries they have fled.

In my experience, this gives them a unique understanding of the blessings that come with residence here.

They contribute to our economy, and are leaders in our communities, in many different fields.

We all care about the safety and security of our nation, but Canada's immigration and refugee policies have served us very well and in no way threaten that safety or security.

And so if you are afraid of what immigration means, don't point fingers – ask questions. Learn about our fellow citizens.

We have benefited from and will continue to benefit from ideas and approaches and experiences newcomers have brought to Toronto and to Canada.

Understand their stories as you understand your own. Understand them because they are our own.

This is how our city will resist fear and live up to our motto, diversity our strength, and focus on inclusion, not division.

Be a good neighbour

Amal Rana, a Vancouver-based Muslim poet, educator and community organizer, shared three practical ways to show **you won't stand for Islamophobia** — and that you care.

Ask

Across the country, it's time to start "hard conversations" around dinner tables and in classrooms. Talk one-on-one about the real-life experience of Islamophobia and the negative stereotypes people hold about Islam.

You don't have to do it perfectly.

Create safety

Talk to local business owners about making your neighbourhood coffee shop, corner store or restaurant into a "safer zone" where people know they can take shelter if they're feeling harassed.

A 'refugees welcome' poster is a good first step.

Check in

Look in on your Muslim neighbours and see if there's anything they need: some company, a walk to school or work, or a hand with the kids. This week of terrible news has been "deeply traumatic" Rana said, and trauma tends to be isolating. Being a friend can lighten the load.

I worry about the impact on not just our mental and spiritual health, but on our bodies.

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Arnold Schwarzenegger blasted President Donald Trump's administration for making the United States look "stupid" with the travel ban.

SEE THE VIDEO ON THE METRO NEWS APP

Don't fear the kitchen

RECIPES

These simple dishes can get all new chefs up and cooking

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

If you've never learned to cook beyond opening a can, fear not. We're here with some easy recipes everyone needs in their back pocket to get started. Now all you need to do is put some music on, pour yourself a glass of wine and get cooking.

Pasta

It's impossible to build a cooking rolodex (does anyone still have a rolodex?) without a kick-ass pasta dish. Here is that dish.

Aside from the joy a bowl of pasta brings to a belly, most dishes are easy to prepare since many noodles cook up quicker than it takes to wait for the water to boil. Also, pasta is a great foundation for any kind of flavour profile and is a complete meal in itself.

We love this **Creamy Pea Tagliatelle** for it's breezy but impressive sauce.

Makes: 4 servings; Prep time: 10 minutes; Cook time: 20 minutes.

Ingredients:

- 500 g tagliatelle pasta
- 2 cups frozen peas
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 cup creme fraiche
- 3 tsp chopped chives or flat-leaf parsley

Directions:

1. Cook the tagliatelle according to package directions. In the last minute of the pasta cooking process, drop the peas into the water. Drain both the pasta and peas.

2. Meanwhile, in a large skillet, heat the oil and sauté the onion and garlic for 5 minutes until fragrant. Stir in the creme fraiche. Add the pasta and peas, folding them with tongs to coat the pasta with the sauce. Sprinkle with chopped chives or flat-leaf parsley and serve.

There's no need to feel intimidated by any of these three simple and scrumptious dishes to get beginners cooking: (clockwise from top) Chinese 5-Spice Chicken Tray Bake, Creamy Pea Tagliatelle and Broccoli and Cheese Soup. PHOTOS: MAYA VISNYEI

Chicken

There's a reason chicken dishes are the most searched recipes on food websites. As proteins go, they're a great canvas for sflavours and easy to prepare.

This **Chinese 5-Spice Chicken Tray Bake** uses less-expensive thighs for budget-sensitive novices, and it features a cooking method ideal for new chefs — tray baking.

Allowing all your meal's ingredients to cook on the same baking sheet not only makes meal prep easier but, frankly, is a smart way to cook.

Makes: 4 servings; Prep time: 1 hour; Cook time: 20 minutes.

Ingredients:

- 3 Tbsp olive oil, plus extra for onions
- 4 to 5 garlic cloves, pressed
- 1 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 Tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp Chinese 5-spice
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 6 large skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- 2 onions, peeled and sliced
- 1 tsp fresh chopped cilantro

Directions:

1. Combine olive oil, garlic, rice vinegar, brown sugar, 5-spice and salt in a large resealable plastic bag. Add chicken thighs; seal and coat chicken with sauce. Chill at least 1 hour or overnight.

2. Preheat oven to 400. Slice and coat onion in a bit of olive oil. Spray baking sheet with non-stick cooking spray. Scatter onion slices on baking sheet.

3. Remove chicken from refrigerator and arrange on top of onion. Roast until chicken is cooked through, about 20 minutes.

4. Remove tray from oven and let cool for a few minutes. Sprinkle chicken and onion with cilantro and serve warm.

Soup

Let's be honest, you can't live in Canada and not have a soup dish you can call your own. And, yes, you should definitely take credit for this easy **Broccoli and Cheese Soup**.

SPICE RACK

Making delicious meals is simpler when you have a small but potent spice rack. Here's what you need beyond good old S&P.

- Chili Powder
- Cumin
- Cinnamon
- Curry Blend
- Dried Bay Leaves
- Dried Oregano

In addition to travelling well for lunches or snacks, soups use up lots of leftovers and can handle any amount of vegetables you can jam into them.

Plus, like this one, they only benefit from the addition of cheese.

Makes 4 servings; Prep time: 10 minutes; Cook time: 25 minutes.

Ingredients:

- 4 cups broccoli florets and stem (cut off tough ends) chopped fairly small
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 cups chopped, potato
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 glug olive oil
- 4 cups stock (vegetable or chicken, low sodium)
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup grated cheddar
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan

salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Sauté onion and garlic in a Dutch oven or other large, heavy-bottomed pot for about 5 minutes until soft.

2. Add vegetables and stock and allow to simmer for about 20 minutes until the vegetables are tender.

3. In small batches, ladle the broth and vegetables into your blender and puree. Pour each batch into a bowl as you go. Pour the puree back into your pot.

4. Over medium heat add milk and cheese and stir until the cheese melts. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Call for ban on adverts to battle childhood obesity

INDUSTRY CRITICISM

New report wants federal help in fight to limit marketing

Children and teens are bombarded with ads for restaurants, cakes, cookies, cereal, ice cream and much more. ISTOCK

In an effort to combat the rising tide of childhood obesity and promote healthier eating, the Heart and Stroke Foundation is calling on the federal government to pass legislation restricting food and beverage marketing to children.

"Given experts' prediction that today's children may be the first generation to have poorer health and shorter lifespans than their parents, we need to be bold," writes Diego Marchese, interim CEO and executive vice-president of Heart and Stroke, in the 2017 Report on the Health of Canadians released Wednesday.

Obesity rates in Canadian children have tripled since 1979 — one in three kids are now overweight or obese — putting them at greater risk for developing health problems such as heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure and diabetes, the report notes. It argues that restrictions on marketing to those under 16 would protect children, support parents and level the playing field for industry.

Industry's efforts over the past decade to self-regulate, through the Canadian Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative, have been "a failure," says the report. "As long as regulation is optional, the playing field is not even. Even if the criteria were strong, companies that comply and put children's health first would be at a competitive disadvantage."

Calls for regulations have been made before. Heart and Stroke is part of the Stop Marketing to Kids Coalition started in 2014, which is made up of 11 non-governmental organizations, including Toronto Public Health.

And Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, in his 2015 mandate letter to Minister of Health Jane Philpott, said he expects her to promote public health by "introducing new restrictions on the commercial marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children, similar to those now in place in Quebec."

The report also highlights Quebec, which has the highest vegetable and fruit intake among Canadian children and the lowest obesity rate among those aged 6 to 11. Legislation introduced there in 1980 banned commercial ads of goods and services to kids under age 13.

For its report, the foundation commissioned Monique Potvin Kent, an expert in food and beverage marketing to children. She reviewed the digital ads shown over a year on the top 10 websites aimed at children between the ages 2 and 11, and youth aged 12 to 17. Her research shows that more than 90 per cent of online food and beverage ads seen by children and teens are for unhealthy items high in fat, sodium or sugar. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

The vibe is what's really killing it

THE SHOW: Mary Kills People, Season 1, Episode 2
THE MOMENT: The stoop

Dr. Mary Harris (Caroline Dhavernas) secretly euthanizes terminal patients. Her quietly smart teenage daughter Jess (Abigail Winter) and Jess's minxy bestie Naomi (Katie Douglas) found a stash of Mary's drugs. Naomi tried some. Jess, who loves Naomi more than platonically, didn't like that. Now they're sitting side by side on a stoop.

"I hate when you're mad at me," Naomi says, snuggling against Jess. "Where'd you go last night?"

"I left because I hate watching you be a train wreck," Jess replies.

"The cocaine wasn't even that good," Naomi says. "Feel my heart." She puts Jess's hand on her chest and holds it there. Jess tries to hide her trembling.

Jess promises not to rat out Naomi if Naomi stops doing drugs. "You sound like your mom," Naomi says. "She knows about this?" Jess asks.

"Oh, yeah," Naomi says. "She totally covered for me, too."

What prevents the plot of this six-part miniseries from becoming repetitive — patients want to die so Mary kills them — is how imperiled Mary's relationships are by her actions. The vibe between these two characters is especially fascinating, thanks to the nuanced dance Winter and Douglas are doing.

Naomi = Trouble and it's not easy to play that without falling into clichés. But Douglas knows exactly when to make eye contact or touch Winter, and when to look or pull away. She draws her in with sincerity, then dominates her with her superior coolness. And that last little touch: undermining Jess's trust in her mother, before flouncing off to breakfast? Perfect.

Mary Kills People airs Wednesdays at 9 p.m. on Global.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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Contest rules: The contest is open to all residents of Ontario who have attained the age of 16, except for employees, their immediate families and anyone living with any employee of the Sponsor or its corporate affiliates, advertising or promotional agencies. Limit of one entry per person. Contest begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2017. Contest closes at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2017. The author's name should not appear on the story itself. Include your name, address, daytime telephone number and email address along with a 25-50 word biographical sketch on a separate sheet of paper with your entry. Stories must be written in English, original and unpublished up to the time the winners are declared on or about Wednesday, April 19, 2017. Stories must be written on a computer or typewriter, be double-spaced and no longer than 2,500 words. Total word count must be printed on the front page of the story. You may wish to enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard with your entry. Potential winners will be notified by telephone or email on or about Tuesday, April 11, 2017. The winners must agree to allow the Toronto Star to publish their names, photographs and biographical information. The decision of the contest judges is final.

For full contest rules visit: thestar.com/shortstory

MAIL OR DROP OFF YOUR SUBMISSION TO:
Short Story Contest, Toronto Star, 1 Yonge Street, Toronto M5E 1E6

A cursory glance around the globe shows the planet is in a tough spot. The North American Black Lives Matter movement continues. Brexit has left racialized people in Britain worried. U.S. President Donald Trump's executive orders are causing global insecurity and an increase in hate crimes. Closer to home, the Quebec mosque attack has left a nation reeling. Now more than ever, Black History Month is important not only to educate but also to celebrate Black history in Canada, and also to connect and empower Canadians.

This week we'll be looking at a group of young, multi-hyphenate Black Canadians who are not only defining and reinterpreting what it means to be Black in Canada but are creating Canadian Black history along the way

Septembre Anderson

Black history in the making

Visual artist Ekow Nimako uses Lego building blocks as the medium for his creations. CONTRIBUTED

Ekow Nimako

Ekow Nimako spends a lot of his time creating things with Lego, but he's not a master builder. The Montreal-born Torontonian with Ghanaian roots is a visual artist who chooses the interlocking building blocks as his medium.

"There's the technical side and the nostalgic side of working with the material but there's also what I call the cultural polarity of working with Lego," said Nimako. "I don't think that blackness and otherness becomes something that globally is associated with Lego. I like that kind of tension."

In addition to his exploration of blackness through art, Nimako also dedicates his time to working with children through Building Beyond workshops, which started as a program through the Power Plant's Power Youth organization and explores afrofuturism through art.

"The importance of afrofuturism is that it places Black people at the centre of their own narratives — epic narratives — that take place in the future but often incorporates elements from the past and the future," he said. "It's really important that they see and build toward that future where we exist and where the world that's created places us at the centre of it rather than at the periphery."

> **I don't think that blackness and otherness becomes something that globally is associated with Lego. I like that kind of tension**
> Ekow Nimako, visual artist

Noëlly Sam

While Noëlly Sam calls the Democratic Republic of Congo home, Paris and Montreal also hold that title. The jet-setter was born in Brazzaville, the capital of the DRC, raised in Paris and later emigrated to Montreal where she works as a business consultant who specializes in branding and social media.

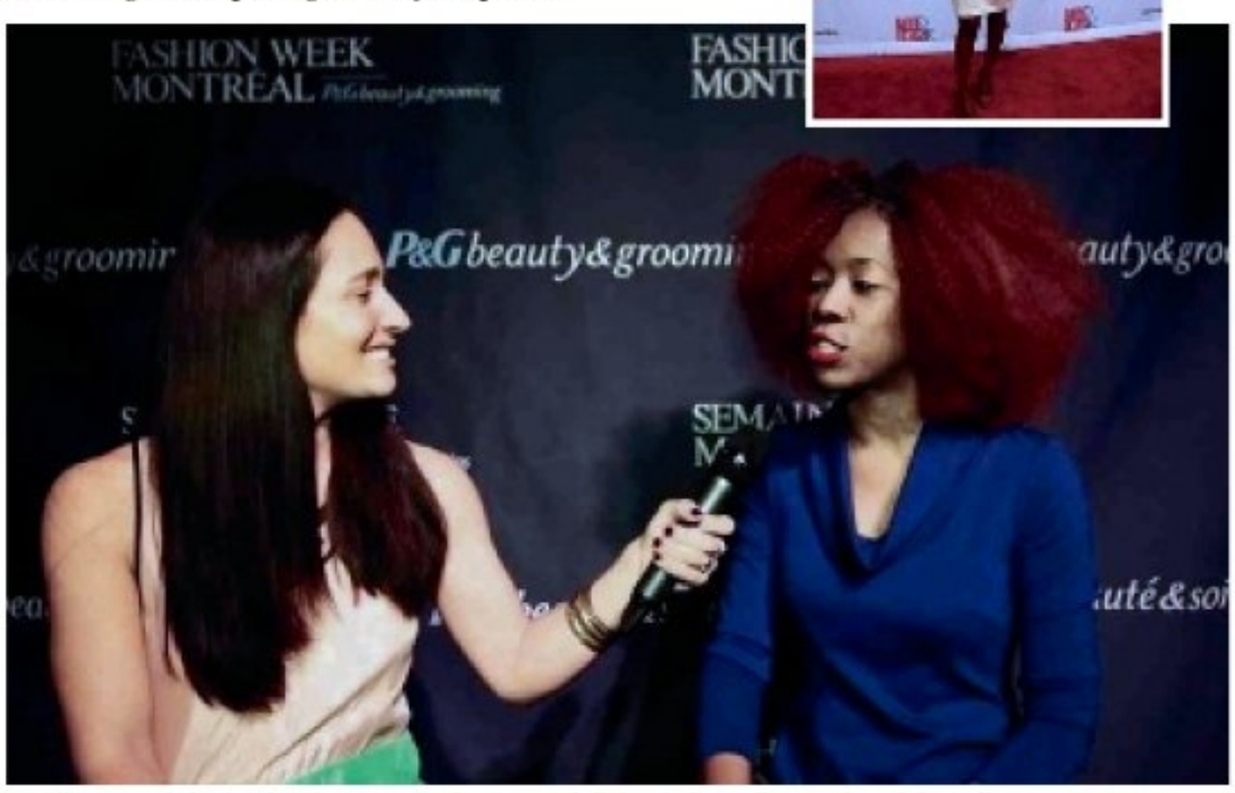
Coming to Montreal as a single, Black woman and immigrant wasn't easy for Sam, who remembers experiencing culture shock, having to learn that race was "a thing" and having to adjust to her new reality.

"It meant rolling up my sleeves and creating my own lane," said Sam. "It wasn't always easy, but speaking French was a great advantage."

The consulting business that Sam started is just her day job. By night, Sam is the host of a monthly award-winning international Twitter discussion, Fashion Unfold, where industry professionals discuss the business, past and future of fashion.

"I wanted to hear what others had to say about the industry beyond the surface," said Sam. "Generating honest and meaningful conversations was always the goal and remains the case today. It has now evolved into a global movement, a community celebrating and respecting diversity of opinions."

> **It has now evolved into a global movement, a community celebrating and respecting diversity of opinions**
> Noëlly Sam, host of Twitter discussion Fashion Unfold



Noëlly Sam, right, is a business consultant specializing in branding and social media. CONTRIBUTED

THIS SPECIAL REPORT WAS CREATED BY CONTENT SOLUTIONS, INDEPENDENT OF METRO EDITORIAL.

Self-described creative entrepreneur Chinedu Ukabam is a fashion designer, curator and cultural programmer. CONTRIBUTED

Chinedu Ukabam

Defining what Chinedu Ukabam does is a little complicated because the multihyphenate Black Canadian — born in the UK and raised in Nigeria, Dubai and Toronto — has his hands in so many different pots.

"As officially as possible, I describe myself as a creative entrepreneur. That includes everything that I do," he said. "I'm a fashion designer but I'm also a curator and a cultural programmer as well."

And while what exactly it is that Ukabam does is difficult to summarize, his goal is not.

"I've been focused on raising awareness about contemporary African culture and making connections between Africa and the diaspora in North America and the Caribbean," said Ukabam.

Making these connections comes in the form of art shows like Supafrik, a travelling pop-up experience that focuses on visual and audio art; exhibitions including Welcome to Blackhurst, which explored the Black heritage of Bathurst St. in Toronto dating as far back 1850; and a number of parties celebrating the diversity of African diasporic music beneath the heading Gumbo.

"When we talk about multiculturalism, it's very dangerous to simply put just 'Black' as something," said Ukabam. "Black is multicultural. That's exactly what I'm interested in — blackness as it intersects."

> **Black is multicultural. That's exactly what I'm interested in — blackness as it intersects**
> Chinedu Ukabam, creative entrepreneur

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT

Here are a few Black History Month events happening around the city:

#FNLROM: Afro Fête
The Royal Ontario Museum. 100 Queen's Park.
Friday, Feb. 3. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Gumbo Masquerade Jam
The Vault. 1 King St. W.
Saturday, Feb. 11. Doors open at 11 p.m.

Black Art & Liberation: A Panel Discussion
Centre for Social Innovation in Daniels Spectrum. 585 Dundas St E.
Thursday, Feb. 16. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Come celebrate
Black History Month with us.

For years TD has sponsored artistic projects as well as historical and cultural events that celebrate the rich cultural contributions of Black Canadians. Learn more by checking out an event near you.

Join us at td.com/blackhistorymonth

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SPONSORED CONTENT

HEADLINE
COFFEE

Mountainous taste

Colombian Excelso takes coffee lovers to new heights

By: Sean Deasy

Juan Valdez and his trusty mule Conchita; fictional characters that embody Colombian coffee.

For many of us the mention of Colombian coffee summons the enduring vision of coffee farmer Juan Valdez and his trusty mule.

And with good reason.

We've seen the ubiquitous fictional character since the late 1950s in everything from TV and magazine advertisements to logos and stamps (pictured, above) as the iconic symbol of the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia. It seems the Colombians made decent coffee at the midway point of the 20th Century and invested heavily in spreading the word.

"Colombian was the most popular coffee [back in the day] because they had the best marketing," says Eric Shabsove of Mountain View Estates Coffee. "They rode that marketing campaign for a long time, even when the quality of the coffee wasn't as good as some neighbouring countries."

But that has all changed, says Shabsove, whose Toronto-based roastery imports coffee from around the globe. "Colombian coffee is the real deal now: great coffees with the perfect balance and acidity. You can light roast or dark roast the beans, or you can put them in blends. And it's a washed coffee so it's also a very clean cup – quite enjoyable to drink both in the morning and afternoon."

Shabsove is not alone in his admiration for Colombian java. The prevailing belief among coffee aficionados is that Colombian coffee is once again a leader in world coffee. And a great deal of its resurgent success, understandably, stems from where the beans are grown. In this case, Excelso Coffee is from the state of Huila in south-western Colombia.

Huila a good cup

The area is incredibly diverse in terms of climate and landscape: the southern part of the region grazes the Andes Mountains, which helps create an unprecedented growing capacity.

Most coffee-producing countries only harvest once a year – some are fortunate enough to harvest twice. Not so in Huila, which is near the equator, boasts near-perfect weather, and sits at a considerably high altitude. "This coffee is unique because of the weather and the altitude and the Andes Mountains nearby," says Shabsove. "They harvest this coffee almost all year round."

There's such an abundance of trees that some will go dormant. "But when you've got this kind of soil and this kind of weather, you'll have flowers beside coffees that are beautiful cherries. That's just what's amazing."

That's also why the beans are handpicked, says Shabsove. "Because you could have a flower, you could have a green bean and you could have a red cherry ready to go, so you have to pick each one separately."

What does Huila's diverse climatic conditions and fertile soil mean for coffee lovers? Quite simply: a variety of high-quality, well-balanced beans with near-perfect acidity.

It's produced in a micro-lot structure, where producers pick the ripe cherries, which are then washed, dried and processed into dry parchment. The product is then sent to a central hub where the coffee is sorted for quality and readied for export.

Ultimately this coffee is destined to leave a very good taste in your mouth.

Cadefihuila cares

Who are the growers behind Colombian Excelso coffee? The Cooperativa Departmental de Caficultores del Huila, or Cadefihuila, for short.

Cadefihuila was established in 1963 by just 19 members with the goal of uniting the many small coffee producers in the region. Their mission? To increase their members' income, attempt to solve social and economic problems, and protect against an instable coffee market.

Their numbers grew considerably in the 1990s, as producers from other areas of Huila joined the group. This created the large and multi-departmental co-op that Cadefihuila is today. The co-op now comprises 4,000 members from 25 municipalities across the state.

In 2014 the organization became Fairtrade certified, which has fortified their mission to support their members in shaping a sustainable future for their business. They are able to offer the best possible price to their coffee producers, as well as provide technical services, farming products and access to international markets. The organization continues to grow and remains committed to becoming a world leader of specialty Colombian coffees, in particular.

Their many social initiatives have turned heads in the industry. "They have scholarships for the children of the producers, that's one area that they focus strongly on," says Shabsove. "They also do a lot of medical projects for their members and the people that participate in production. So they do a lot of good things for the people and Fairtrade helps them as well."

Fairtrade impacts

Certainly the Fairtrade premium is an asset. Investments have been made in training on environmental criteria and on how to farm sustainably without damaging the ecosystem's biodiversity. One notable project is currently underway to renovate the plantations to combat la roya (leaf rust disease).

Cadefihuila has also made great progress in providing coffee infrastructure, such as drying and milling facilities, to their members. The intention is to develop infrastructure further and upgrade water treatment systems. The group has also developed a business and marketing strategy for their coffee.

The co-op now has two technical assistance teams – one for agriculture and the other for environmental sustainability. Training in crop management to boost quality and yields has already resulted in higher production levels.

A certain Colombian coffee grower, standing alongside his four-legged companion, could hardly be blamed for beaming with pride.

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New McLaren 720S leaked ahead of rumoured Geneva debut

Completely powered by electrons

REVIEW

Bolt a fairly affordable entrance to the EV market

Dan Ilika
AutoGuide.com

Don't let the popularity of the Tesla Model S fool you: Electric vehicles aren't selling as well as perhaps they should be.

Get past range anxiety and long charging times, and the astronomical upfront cost of EV ownership is no doubt keeping plenty of potential buyers away. Automakers know this all too well, and a handful are working on electrified solutions that fit the needs — and budgets — of the masses. And the first of this new class of relatively affordable, everyday-friendly EVs to hit the market is the 2017 Chevrolet Bolt. Aside from its confounding name — conversations about the car invariably include descriptors like "that's Bolt with a 'B'" for clarity's sake — the Bolt joins the alternative fuel fray with little doubt about its electric origins.

Because unlike the Volt, which features a gas engine (it doesn't send power to the wheels directly but essentially recharges the battery pack on the fly), the Bolt is powered purely by electrons.

The 60-kilowatt-hour battery pack, a lithium-ion unit, spans the entire length of the car's cabin and can be plugged into Levels I, II or III charging stations. Using the former means long charging times, while the latter, known as DC Fast Charging, can top the battery up with 145 kilometres of range in about 30 minutes, or juice it up completely in about two hours.

Topping the battery up completely using a Level II charger, meanwhile, takes a little less than 10 hours and provides an estimated range of 383 kilometres.

Departing Menlo Park, Calif., with a fully charged battery our tester was more than fit for an extended tour of the rain-soaked San Francisco Bay Area. With a roundabout journey spanning about 160 km on the day's docket, battery life was of little concern.

With the instant torque provided by the electric powertrain, the Bolt offered impressive acceleration — a useful tool not for racing along city streets, but rather when passing and merging.

The electrified gusto did, however, combine well with the Bolt's responsive ride, a product of wheels that sit as near as possible to the corners, and low centre of gravity, created by the battery pack, to have a little bit of fun when called upon.

The battery pack's low positioning in the car isn't always smile-inducing, though. Tipping the scales at 435 kilograms, it creates a weight imbalance in the Bolt that can lead to a see-sawing effect over uneven pavement, something that became quickly evident on the Bay Area's roly-poly highways.

It's definitely not a deal-breaker, but does take some getting used to — particularly for those who are new to electric vehicles.

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 CHEVROLET BOLT REVIEW

THE BASICS

Motor: Single motor drive unit
Output: 200 hp, 266 lb-ft
Transmission: Fixed ratio
Battery Size: 60 kWh
Estimated Range: 383 kilometres
Price: Starts at $42,795 (before available incentives)

LOVE IT

- Silky smooth acceleration
- Relative lack of range anxiety
- Bright and open cabin

LEAVE IT

- Jarring regenerative brakes
- Cost of active safety options

Arnie does his small part in big car

WHEELS ROUNDUP
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MERCEDES-BENZ

Schwarzenegger hacks G-Wagen

When you're a world-renowned actor and former governor, you don't wait for Mercedes-Benz to make the car you want. Arnold Schwarzenegger recently took to Facebook to show off his latest new car, an all-electric Mercedes-Benz G-Wagen. If you're thinking the German automaker made a special one-off for Schwarzenegger, think again. The conversion was actually done by Kreisel Electric, a specialist for electromobility, and the SUV was presented to the public for the very first time at the Hahnenkamm race in Kitzbuhel, Austria. The actor is well known for his love of big, rugged SUVs, but at the same time, he's also a huge supporter of clean energy and clean cars. So instead of waiting for Mercedes to come out with an all-electric G-Wagen, he took matters into his own hands and had one created. The actor said the converted SUV has "500-some horsepower."

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

CARSAVER

Walmart set to sell cars

North America's largest retailer is edging is way into automotive sales with the help of the nation's largest new-car dealership franchise, AutoNation. Launching in April, Walmart's CarSaver program will make it a middleman for impulse car buyers and local dealerships. CarSaver is designed to allow shoppers to browse, select, finance, and insure a vehicle through its website or at kiosks in the store.

MATT POSKY/AUTOGUIDE.COM

SUPER BOWL

Lil Buck dances with Lexus LC500

Lexus has revealed a new Super Bowl commercial called Man & Machine featuring the 2017 LC500 coupe. The campaign consists of an extended ad, which the automaker uploaded to YouTube and a 30-second version set to debut during the second quarter of Super Bowl LI on Feb. 2. Both ads feature a performance by movement artist Lil Buck along with music by recording artist Sia. Lexus says the ads are intended to recognize parallels "between the shapes and movements of the human form and the power and athleticism of Lexus' most premium models."

SAM MCEACHERN/AUTOGUIDE.COM

What we know about the 2019 Explorer

SUVS

Debut may come as early as 2017 L.A. Auto Show

Jason Siu
AutoGuide.com

Compared to its 2018 counterpart shown here, the 2019 Ford Explorer is expected to get a new platform and a similar look. CONTRIBUTED

Ford is working hard on the next generation of its popular Explorer SUV.

When it comes to mid-sized SUVs, none sells better than the Ford Explorer in the U.S. — and for good reason. The popular seven-seater has been a staple in the American automaker's lineup since the early 1990s and now the sixth-generation model is in development.

Although it will go on sale as a 2019 model year, there's a bit we already know about the next-generation SUV as spy photographers have caught a prototype testing.

It rides on a new platform

The 2019 Ford Explorer is expected to ride on a new platform called "D6." Currently it's underpinned by the D4 platform also found on the Ford Flex and Lincoln MKT, but look for the D6 to make an appearance in several of Ford's models in the future. It's believed that the new platform will take advantage of lightweight materials like aluminum, similar to what Ford did with its popular F-150 pickup. In addition, rumours suggest it can be configured for front-, rear- and all-wheel drive, but don't expect it to go rear-wheel drive. For now, it's believed it will continue to be offered with front-wheel drive as standard and all-wheel drive available as an option.

It will likely lose its naturally aspirated V6 engine

Like the refreshed Ford Mustang, the automaker is expected to drop the naturally aspirated V6 engine from the Ford Explorer's lineup. Look to see the 2.3-litre four cylinder and 3.5-litre V6 EcoBoost engines live on, with slight updates to enhance performance and fuel economy. The deletion of the naturally aspirated V6 will help boost the average fuel economy and emissions across the entire Explorer range.

Look for it to debut in late 2017 or early 2018

There's a possibility Ford will debut the 2019 Explorer at the 2017 L.A. Auto Show, but it's more likely it will bow at the 2018 Detroit Auto Show. Either way, it should go on sale in summer 2018 as a 2019 model year.

Styling will be evolutionary rather than revolutionary

Although it's still hard to see with the heavily camouflage concealing the prototype, the new Explorer won't see any drastic styling changes.

The focus will be on using aluminum to shed weight, helping make it more fuel efficient as well as taking advantage of the new platform.

Some would say the fifth-generation model did enough to change the popular SUV's styling that debuted as a 2011 model year. Needless to say that's several years ago and by the time the new model bows, it will be a welcomed change even if it's not overwhelming.

It will continue to sell well

Last year, the Ford Explorer sold 248,507 units, making it the 14th overall best seller in the U.S.

It's a safe assumption that regardless of how Ford decides to style the Explorer, it will continue to sell well among the midsize SUV segment, especially for shoppers looking for seven seats. Currently the model starts from $32,605 including destination ($35,039 in Canada), but don't expect it to see any sort of major price hike when the new model is introduced.

STATS

Sales

Last year, the Ford Explorer sold 248,507 units, making it the 14th overall best seller in the U.S.

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metro SPORTS

Mark Johnson's 206-day #Letmecaddieforyou Twitter campaign is a success as Sergio Garcia will let the Englishman assist him in a Sept. 27 pro-am

LeBron sounds off

NBA

Cavs star hits back against Barkley's criticism

LeBron James is done bowing to Sir Charles.

After he was criticized by Charles Barkley for questioning Cleveland's front office, James tore into the former NBA star and opinionated TV commentator on Monday night following a loss in Dallas.

James not only countered what was said about him but he also attacked Barkley's character for some off-the-court missteps.

I'm tired of biting my tongue. There's a new sheriff in town.
LeBron James

"I'm not going to let him disrespect my legacy like that," James told ESPN after the Cavs lost 104-97 to Dallas, dropping the defending champions to 7-8 in January. "I'm not the one who threw somebody through a window. I never spit on a kid. I never had unpaid debt in Las Vegas. I never said, 'I'm not a role model.' I never showed up to All-Star Weekend on Sunday because I was in Vegas all weekend partying.

"All I've done for my entire career is represent the NBA the right way. Fourteen years, never got in trouble. Respected the game. Print that."

Barkley has never been one to hold back his opinion on James or any other player, but the 11-time all-star was particularly critical of James last week after the Cavs star complained about Cleveland's roster being "top-heavy" and questioned whether the team's front office was satisfied with one title.

Barkley said James was "whiny" and "inappropriate" and wondered about his motives. Barkley called James "the best player in the world" but wondered if he really wanted to compete. James initially dismissed Barkley, saying he was only trying to boost TV ratings. Barkley works as an in-studio host for TNT.

However, James decided he couldn't let those comments go and turned on Barkley, who never won an NBA title.

"He's a hater. What makes what he says credible? Because he's on TV?" James said. "I know he wanted to retire a long time ago, but he can't. He's stuck up on that stage every week."

James also said if Barkley wants to continue any discussion, he knows where to find him.

"He knows every road arena I'll be in," James said. "Don't just come up to me at all-star and shake my hand and smile."

All-star forward Kevin Love has been dealing with back spasms and missed Monday's game and starting guard J.R. Smith remains sidelined with a broken thumb.

James insists the Cavs just need to play better.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raptors guard Kyle Lowry drives to the basket against Pelicans forward Dante Cunningham on Tuesday night at Air Canada Centre. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lowry lifts Raptors over Pelicans in OT

Kyle Lowry scored 33 points, including a huge basket with four seconds left in overtime, to lift the Toronto Raptors over the New Orleans Pelicans 108-106 on Tuesday.

The victory was just the struggling Raptors' second in eight outings.

Lowry also had 10 assists for a double-double. Jonas Valanciunas added 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Raptors (30-19), who were playing for the fourth time in five games without all-star guard DeMar DeRozan. Norman Powell added 18 points.

Jrue Holiday led New Orleans (19-30) with 30 points.

DeRozan, out with an ankle injury, will also miss Wednesday's game against the Celtics in Boston. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TUESDAY At ACC

108	106
RAPTORS	PELICANS

NFL

Kraft fires shots over Deflategate

Robert Kraft is pulling his punches over "Deflategate."

Well, some of them.

While the New England Patriots owner and once close confidant of NFL commissioner Roger Goodell wants to celebrate yet another trip to the Super Bowl this week, he also couldn't back down from a challenge Monday night to address the whole mess. So Kraft took a couple of shots during the Patriots' availability, yet also made sure not to temper the festive mood.

There's a time and a place to talk about problems. I'm going to stay focused on being here.
Robert Kraft

"Everybody wants to protect their family," Kraft said about the deflated footballs case from the 2014 AFC championship game that resulted in Tom Brady's four-game suspension, a $1-million fine for the franchise and the loss of its first-round draft pick in 2016.

"I think our family was involved, or accused of being involved, in something that was mishandled and became inappropriate. Sometimes in a complicated situation in business, people start pointing fingers, and we want to assure everyone that we are together."

Kraft then cited a Hebrew saying from the Old Testament.

"When tough times come," he translated, "there's nothing bad that happens that doesn't have good associated with it.

"In a way, that galvanized our team."

After the Patriots' home victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers in the AFC championship, Kraft accepted the Lamar Hunt Trophy — no, Goodell was not on hand to present it — and made a not-too-veiled reference to Deflategate.

"For a number of reasons, all of you in this stadium understand how big this win was," Kraft said. "And we have to go to Houston and win one more."

New England (16-2) is a three-point favourite for Sunday's Super Bowl against Atlanta (13-5). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bills won't retain NFL's first female assistant coach

The Buffalo Bills will not retain Kathryn Smith, the first full-time female assistant coach in the NFL.

Smith is one of 14 assistants who will not remain on new coach Sean McDermott's staff, the Bills announced on Tuesday. McDermott was hired on Jan. 11 to replace Rex Ryan, who was fired prior to the Bills' season finale.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Argos sign tackle Zeyl to three-year extension

Spencer Zimmerman made a big splash Tuesday in his first move as the Toronto Argonauts' acting GM.

Toronto signed veteran offensive lineman Chris Van Zeyl to a three-year contract extension. The six-foot-six, 312-pound tackle was scheduled to become a free agent next month.

Last week, the Argos fired general manager Jim Barker.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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4	3	8	1	9	6	7	2	5
9	7	1	5	2	8	4	6	3
6	2	5	4	7	3	9	8	1
7	1	2	3	8	9	6	5	4
5	9	4	7	6	1	8	3	2
3	8	6	2	4	5	1	9	7
2	5	9	8	1	4	3	7	6
8	4	3	6	5	7	2	1	9
1	6	7	9	3	2	5	4	8

Epping opens up about being out

CURLING

Openly gay skip says he's backed by fellow athletes

It has been over five years since curler John Epping told family, friends, and peers in his sport's community that he was gay.

"I got a ton of messages," he said. "And the way people tried to relate it to me was just to say, 'Hey it's OK, we've got your back.' It came in so many different ways. It was pretty special."

Epping knew there was growing interest in his story about being gay in a men's team sport, but held off on sharing the news more widely as he didn't want it to be a distraction. So there was no news conference, no statement, no television feature.

"If somebody asks, I just talk about it," Epping said in his first in-depth interview on the subject. "And I know I probably should do more of these because it can help people. But I just look at it like, I haven't thought about going around broadcasting that I'm a gay person curling.

"This is my life. This is me ... it's a part of life, it's what it is."

12

Gay leagues are quite popular and the 12th edition of the Canadian gay curling championship is next month in Montreal.

Active elite male athletes revealing they're gay is still a rarity. For Epping, it's important to weigh in if it makes it easier for someone thinking about following his lead.

"If it can make a difference for one person reading this story or even just one person in my life, if I can influence or help in a positive way — right on," he said.

While it was difficult to initially come out, Epping feels it worked out well. The three-time Grand Slam winner said he received "loads of support".

"I would say I was very, very lucky and spoiled," he said after a recent practice session at the Leaside Curling Club in Toronto. "I hope it would be that way for everybody but I know it's not. I know we still have a long way to come in sports in general."

The 33-year-old from Peterborough, Ont., won his first Grand Slam in 2008 — The National — as a second on Wayne Middaugh's team. His first Slam title as a skip came in 2012 at the Players' Championship and he won the Canadian Open in 2015 with his current lineup of Mat Camm, Patrick Janssen and Tim March.

His rink is currently ranked seventh in the world. Epping also plays mixed doubles — a discipline that will make its Olympic debut next year.

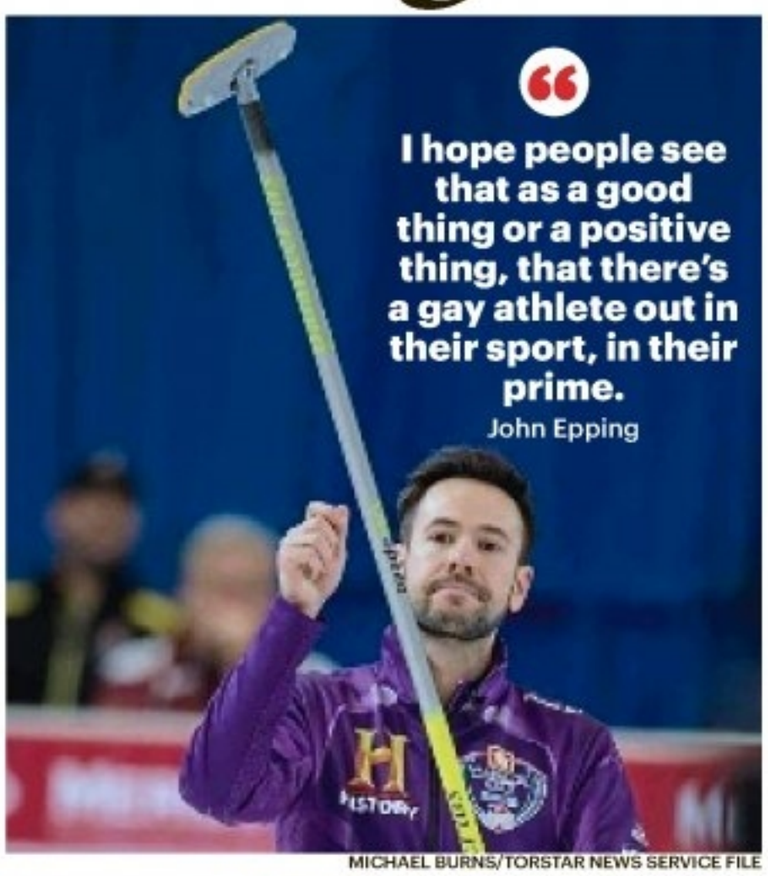
Epping serves as an ambassador for You Can Play, an organization that works to ensure safety and inclusion for all who participate in sports, including LGBTQ athletes, coaches, and fans.

"It's great to be involved with an organization like that, and trying to promote that and spread that," he said. "But like I said I've been lucky. The locker-room culture — nothing changed."

Epping, who is getting married in June, is playing in this week's Ontario men's championship in Cobourg, Ont. A win would send him to his first Tim Hortons Brier.

"I know the support isn't always there in every person's situation," Epping said. "In mine it was, and I'm very fortunate for that so I owe a lot of gratitude to those people. But I think it says a lot about curlers and I also think maybe it says something about the people I've surrounded myself with too in my life."

THE CANADIAN PRESS


"
I hope people see that as a good thing or a positive thing, that there's a gay athlete out in their sport, in their prime.
John Epping

MICHAEL BURNS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

PREMIER LEAGUE

Chelsea still in sight after Anfield draw

Simon Mignolet saved a late penalty after being at fault for an early goal, earning Liverpool a 1-1 draw against Chelsea that slowed the leaders' charge to the Premier League title.

The Belgium goalkeeper was caught unawares by an opportunistic free kick from David Luiz in the 24th minute as Chelsea took the lead against the run of play at Anfield on Tuesday.

Georginio Wijnaldum equalized for Liverpool in the 57th before Mignolet turned Diego Costa's penalty around the post in the 76th.

Simon Mignolet GETTY IMAGES

That save meant Liverpool avoided a fourth straight home loss in all competitions for the first time since 1923 and stayed 10 points behind Chelsea with 15 games left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEADLINE DAY

A look at the big deals in England at the close of the January transfer window:

- **Watford striker Odion Ighalo,** pictured, joins Chinese side Changchun Yatai for £20M.
- **Napoli striker Manolo Gabbiadini** joins Southampton for a reported £14M.
- **Norwich midfielder Robbie Brady** to Burnley for club record £10.5M.
- **Aston Villa striker Jordan Ayew to Swansea** for £5M plus defender Neil Taylor.
- **Liverpool defender Mamadou Sakho** joins Crystal Palace on loan.

TONY MARSHALL/ GETTY IMAGES

MLS

Experienced defender Mavinga joins TFC

Toronto FC has signed French-born Congolese international Chris Mavinga, a defender whose resumé includes some big-name clubs but also a few missteps.

Mavinga is the first major off-season signing for the MLS Cup runners-up. For Toronto, the signing offers some defensive insurance at the very least — with the plus-side hope the 25-year-old can live up to past billing.

In 2009, a highly recruited Mavinga left Paris Saint-Germain for Liverpool. Despite impressing with the reserves, he never played a first-team game for the Reds.

Chris Mavinga GETTY IMAGES

Seven years and five clubs later, Mavinga finds himself with another set of Reds in Major League Soccer. "We are excited to add Chris to Toronto FC," said Toronto GM Tim Bezbatchenko. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Spicy Enchilada Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You won't miss the taco shell once you combine sweet potatoes with a meat filling that delivers rich flavours.

Ready in 1 hour
Prep time: 30 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 4 medium sweet potatoes
- 1 Tbsp oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lb ground beef
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 Tbsp chili powder
- 1 tsp cumin
- ¼ tsp ground dry mustard
- ¼ tsp cinnamon
- ¼ tsp garlic salt
- ¼ tsp dried oregano
- ½ a 156 ml can of tomato paste
- butter
- Monterey Jack Cheese
- sour cream
- cilantro

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Scrub sweet potatoes and pierce a few times with a fork. Place on baking sheet and bake 40 – 45 minutes, until easily pierced with a fork.

2. Meanwhile, add oil to a medium-sized pan over medium-low heat. Add garlic and onion and sauté until tender, about 5 minutes. Add beef to the pan, sprinkle with salt and sauté until cooked through. Drain fat if needed/desired. Add chili powder, cumin, mustard, cinnamon, garlic salt and oregano and stir. Add tomato paste and stir again until incorporated. Simmer for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

3. Remove potatoes once they've cooked through, slice down middle and, using a fork, break up filling and add a bit of butter. Spoon enchilada filling over top. Dress with additional toppings and enjoy

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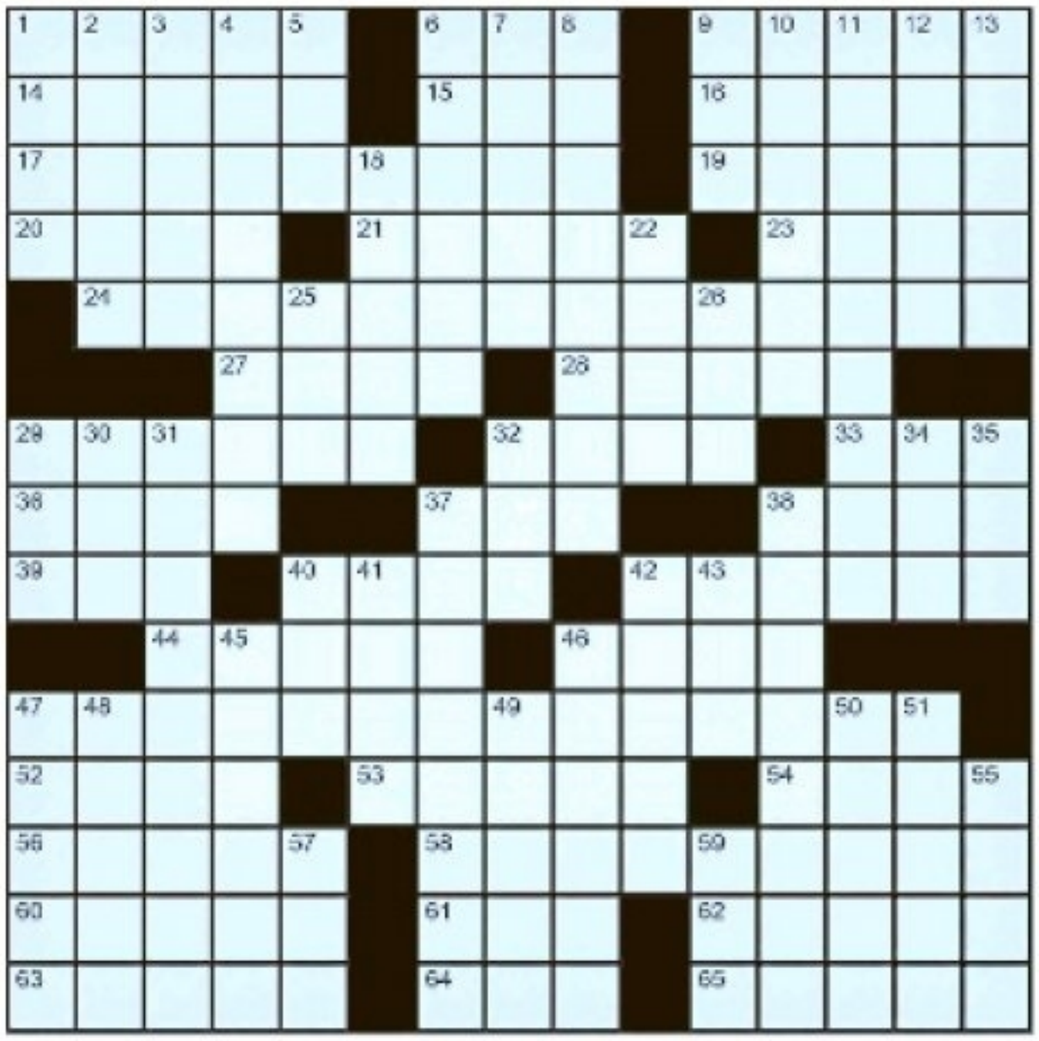
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Renault 5 supermini, as it was also known: 2 wds.
6. 'Start With Trust' is this org.'s slogan
9. Willie of "Charles in Charge"
14. "It's __ to the finish!"
15. Swiss river, variantly
16. Letting-in-the-cold problem
17. Soup/salad/sandwich setting
19. Astrology sign
20. Lhasa __ (Small dog)
21. Open, as a cage
23. Eight: Spanish
24. Montreal-born "Shark Tank" star Kevin O'Leary recently became a candidate for the what in Canadian politics?: 2 wds.
27. Everly Brothers: "All I Have to __ Dream"
28. Expletive eliminator
29. Gain more sense: 2 wds.
32. Orbison and Rogers
33. Noun modifier, briefly
36. Listen
37. White tie suit, commonly
38. Between harbours
39. "Little __ lot?" (Quantity query)
40. "Dirty Jobs" host Mike
42. Coffee machine's daily change
44. Play the radio loudly
46. Release-from-jail money
47. Waterway between mainland Labrador and Newfoundland island: abbr. + wd. + wd. + wd.
52. Linked
53. Flight segment
54. Pub order
56. The end.
58. Super-small
60. Moved as molasses
61. Utmost degree
62. Someone sore
63. Fashion designer's creation
64. "__ whiz!"
65. Tractor company, John __

DOWN
1. "__ Land" (2016)
2. Spew as a volcano
3. Nova Scotia community near Chedabucto Bay
4. Granted via agreement
5. Showbiz practice run, briefly
6. 'B.' of US President Lyndon B. Johnson's name
7. "La __" by Ritchie Valens
8. Loaf storer
9. Dictionary abbr.
10. Song-like
11. Go by in the parade: 2 wds.
12. D-J link
13. Brownstone stairway
18. Spring flower
22. Be dependent
25. Toi: English
26. Home [abbr.]
29. UN wellness agency
30. Occupational suffix
31. Beach's refreshing wind: 2 wds.
32. Regret
34. Actor, Billy __ Williams
35. Jam container
37. President Trump's techie hobby
38. Seasoning in jerk chicken
40. Brit. fliers
41. Eyeballs
42. Figure in enchanted tales, olde-style
43. Sundial number
45. Family of Archie's comical friend Veronica
46. __ Spirit (Noel Coward play)
47. Rose to one's feet
48. Indian Ocean arm, __ Sea
49. Espresso style
50. Willowy
51. Participate
55. Pericles, Prince of __
57. Dates not as ancient as BCs
59. Edible no longer

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today, you have the advantage over all the other signs because the Moon is in your sign. This means you can ask the universe for a favour. (It also makes you more emotional than usual.)

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will prefer to work alone or behind the scenes today, and that's just fine. You have been so high-viz lately that you need some privacy.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will enjoy schmoozing with others today, especially a female acquaintance. You might discuss future travel plans with someone, because you definitely need a change of scenery.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Private details about your personal life might become public today for some reason. People are talking about you. Let's hope it's good stuff. (Fingers crossed.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Do something different today, because you are restless and in the mood for a bit of adventure. Obviously, if you can travel somewhere, this will please you.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Focus on red-tape details regarding inheritances, taxes, debt and shared property. Get information so that you can better handle disputes about these matters.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Because the Moon is opposite your sign today, this means you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. In two weeks, when the Moon is in your own sign, you have the edge.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do whatever you can to get better organized today, because this will please you. Tidy up messy areas both at home and at work.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a playful, flirtatious day for you! Enjoy schmoozing with others. Sports events, fun activities with children and social outings will delight.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Home, family and your personal life are your top priorities today. A conversation with a female relative (Mom?) could be significant.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
When talking to others today, you want to get down to the nitty-gritty of things. You don't want superficial chitchat about the weather. You also want to express your feelings.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Money and financial issues are your concerns today. However, be careful if you are shopping, because you might shop according to your wishes, which really are not practical. Keep your receipts.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

1	6			9				5
			8		2			6
				3				
	5						4	
7		4				1		8
	2						3	
				8				
9			6		5			
3				1			8	9

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